

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7764

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 4062

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, PDIP, ID, CH, CB

SUBJECT: INDONESIAN RELATIONS WITH THE PRC AND CAMBODIA

REF: JAKARTA 2988 (NOTAL)

1. DURING A BRIEF TALK AT A SOCIAL FUNCTION ON MARCH 28, I ASKED DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS DARUSMAN ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR RESUMPTION OF RELATIONS WITH THE PRC AND ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICIAL CONTACTS WITH CAMBODIA. REGARDING CHINA, DARUSMAN GENERALLY REITERATED THE POINTS REPORTED REFTEL, BUT ADDED THAT AS THINGS NOW STAND HE DOUBTS THAT OFFICIAL RELATIONS WILL BE RESUMED BEFORE MID-1979. THERE ARE, HE SAID, A NUMBER OF DIFFICULT PROBLEMS TO BE RESOLVED BEFORE RESIDENT MISSIONS ARE ESTABLISHED. THESE INCLUDE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF GROUND RULES REGARDING OPERATION OF THE PRC EMBASSY HERE (PARTICULARLY CONTACTS WITH LOCAL CHINESE); THE LOCATION OF THE CHANCERY AND THE SIZE OF ITS STAFF; AND SETTLEMENT OF DEBTS FOR INFLATED CHINESE ASSISTANCE PROBIDED DURING THE SUKARNO
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PERIOD. DARUSMAN REITERATED THAT INDONESIA IS IN NO RUSH TO RESUME RELATIONS AND IS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE IMPACT OF A CHINESE MISSION ON INDONESIA'S LARGE AND ECONOMICALLY POWERFUL CHINESE MINORITY. THIS IS ONE OF THE PROBLEMS REGARDING LOCATION OF THE CHANCERY SINCE THE FORMER PRC CHANCERY WAS LOCATED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CHINESE AREA OF JAKARTA. DARUSMAN CONFIDED THAT THE GOI HAS SOLICITED VIEWS

FROM NEIGHBORING FRIENDLY COUNTRIES ON THE SIZE, NATURE AND ACTIVITIES OF CHINESE EMBASSIES LOCATED THERE. THIS INFORMATION WILL HELP INDONESIA DEVISE PROCEDURES TO REDUCE THE POTENTIAL ADVERSE IMPACT OF AN OFFICIAL PRC MISSION.

2. VICE PRESIDENT ADAM MALIK, IN HIS POST-INAUGURAL PRESS CONFERENCE, SAID IT WILL "NOT BE MUCH LONGER" BEFORE NORMAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ARE REESTABLISHED WITH THE PRC. TWO WEEKS EARLIER, THE GOVERNOR (DIRECTOR) OF THE NATIONAL DEFENSE INSTITUTE (LEMHANAS) LT. GEN. SAJIDIMAN TOLD THE PRESS THAT "A STRATEGIC DOCTRINE IN CARRYING OUT PREPARATORY STEPS WHICH WILL PERMIT THE REESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE PRC HAS ALREADY BEEN ESTABLISHED." MALIK HAS LONG ADVOCATED FORMAL RAPPROCHEMENT WITH PEKING, HOWEVER, AND SAJIDIMAN IS NOT KNOWN TO BE CLOSELY INVOLVED IN THE CHINA QUESTION, SO WE TEND TO THINK DARUSMAN'S COMMENTS ARE MORE REPRESENTATIVE OF CURRENT GOI THINKING.

3. REGARDING CAMBODIA, DARUSMAN SAID THERE HAD BEEN NO FURTHER CONTACT OR EXCHANGE OF MESSAGES SINCE THOSE TRANSMITTED THROUGH THAI FOREIGN MINISTER UPPADIT IN FEBRUARY. INDONESIA REPLIED TO IENG SARY'S MESSAGE IN A CONSTRUCTIVE AND FORTHCOMING MANNER AND IS NOW AWAITING SOME FURTHER SIGNAL FROM HIM. WHILE INDONESIA WOULD LIKE TO HAVE CONTACT WITH THE NEW CAMBODIAN REGIME, IT DOES NOT BELIEVE IT IS ADVISABLE TO PUSH THE PROCESS. (COMMENT: THIS IS A DIFFERENT VIEW
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THAN THAT REPORTED IN BANGKOK 9064. WE WOULD MUCH APPRECIATE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION WHICH COMES TO EMBASSY BANGKOK'S ATTENTION.)
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